

COMMISSIONERS
KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
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BOB STUMP

ORIGINAL



0000093758

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

February 13, 2009

To: Docket Control

RE: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc. - Customer Comments
Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

Please docket the attached 51 customer comments in response to the above filed rate case.

Customer comments can be reviewed in E-docket under the above docket number.

Filed by: Utilities Division – Consumer Services

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 13 2009

DOCKETED BY

[Handwritten signature]

DOCKET CONTROL
AZ CORP COMMISSION

2009 FEB 13 P 4:03

RECEIVED

WS-03478A-08-0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Reg Lopez

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 75813

Date: 2/11/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

Complaint By: First: Mike and Carol Last: Kammer

Account Name: Mike and Carol Kammer

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street: [REDACTED]

Work: [REDACTED]

City: Yuma

CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ Zip: [REDACTED]

is: Home

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division: Water

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

Received the following e-mailed letter:

February8, 2009

Mike and Carol Kammer

Yuma, Arizona [REDACTED]

Phone: 928-345-3785

Name of Utility: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Sewer Rate Increase

Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

The Schechert family should have fixed the sewer problem before continuing to add additional developments to the Foothills. I feel they are also trying to get the customer to pay for the lawsuit they lost when someone was killed while working for them. This proposed increase is exorbitant and will price the retired people that enjoy the Foothills out of their homes and RV's. The property will not be worth anything because we won't be able to sell or keep what we no have.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

I e-mailed Lupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to please have this OPINION placed in the appropriate stack and have this docketed towards docket no. WS-03478A-08-0454 under Far West Water & Sewer. File closed.

End of Comments

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Date Completed: 2/11/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 75813

WS-03478A-08-0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Reg Lopez

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 75805

Date: 2/11/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed

N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: K.A.

Schmidt

Account Name: K.A. Schmidt

Home: [REDACTED]

Street: [REDACTED]

Work:

City:

Yuma

CBR:

State:

AZ

Zip: [REDACTED]

is:

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division:

Water

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

Received the following e-mailed customer letter:

February 10, 2009

K A Schmidt

Yuma, AZ [REDACTED]

Phone: N/A

Name of Utility: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Sewer Rate Increase

Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

During these times of recession it is unbelievable that Far West would propose such a rate increase.

There should be NO bail out at taxpayers expense of such a proposed rate increase.

I Far West cannot operate without such a ridiculous increase, get them out of business and replace them with a more effient company.

This letter conveys a NO vote for the proposed rate increase by Far West Water and Sewer Company.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

I e-mailed Lupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to please have this OPINION placed in the appropriate stack and have this docketed towards docket no. WS-03478A-08-0454 under Far West Water & Sewer. File closed.
End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/11/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 75805

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Reg Lopez**Phone:** ()**Fax:** ()**Priority:** Respond Within Five Days**Opinion** **No.** 2009 - 75729**Date:** 2/10/2009**Complaint Description:** 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable**First:****Last:****Complaint By:** Don & Charlene

Manney

Account Name: Don & Charlene Manney**Home:** (000) 000-0000**Street:****Work:****City:**

Yuma

CBR:**State:**

AZ

Zip:**is:** Home**Utility Company:** Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.**Division:**

Water

Contact Name:**Contact Phone:****Nature of Complaint:**

Received the following e-mailed customer letter:

February 9, 2009

Don & Charlene Manney

Phone:

Email:

Name of Utility: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Sewer Rate Increase

Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

A 300% increase in charges is out of line given the current economy. An increase from \$21.75 to \$74.32 over the next 3 years will most likely cause senior winter visitors to stay at home. Most are on fixed incomes and simply cannot afford the proposed charges.

At this point, we use the sewer facilities for 6 months of the year, yet are charged for the full 12 months with no water going down the drain.

Developers continue to develop land, eager for the monies they will rake in when the lots are sold. Why not charge impact fees on the new lots and home sites they continue to develop? Also, the developers could charge more for the lots to cover the additional sewer services.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

I e-mailed Lupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to please have this OPINION placed in the appropriate stack and have this docketed towards docket no. WS-03478A-08-0454 under Far West Water & Sewer. File closed.
End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/10/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 75729

WS. 03478A-08.0454

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Reg Lopez

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 - 75662

Date: 2/10/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By: Harry & Constance McKemy

Account Name: Harry & Constance McKemy

Home: [REDACTED]

Street: [REDACTED]

Work:

City: Yuma

CBR: [REDACTED]

State: AZ **Zip:** [REDACTED]

is: Home

Utility Company: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division: Water

Contact Name: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Nature of Complaint:

Received the following e-mailed customer letter:

February 9, 2009

Harry and Constance McKemy

[REDACTED]

Yuma, AZ 8

Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Name of Utility: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.
Sewer Rate Increase
Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am not very happy regarding the intended sewer rate increase for the Foothills in Yuma, AZ. I am down here about 6 months per year, I just turned on the service on our second lot and was charged \$242.79 (establishment/reconnect is \$174.00 and other services is \$25.00 together was is \$199.00) the rest of the bill was \$41.79 which I don't have a problem with nor the \$25.00 reconnect fee. I do have a problem with the \$174.00 cost for the 7 months the water/sewer was turned off and was charged for it, I would constitute this as extortion. I call City of Yuma, AZ Water and Sewer and the cost is \$106.00 basic rate for 2 months, broke down per month is \$18.00 for water and \$29.00 for sewer. A \$20.00 dollar reconnect fee for winter visitors and no charge for water/sewer upon returning to AZ. If I owed this money why was I not informed or received a monthly bill. I was shocked. I do not have a problem with a increase but not to 200/300 percent over 3 years. Please support our community regarding this issue.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

If the water and sewer plans are not adequate why were the developers allowed to build in 291 more lot with sewer hookups and expect the current community to fund the new development why wasn't that passed on to the developer as we know it was the Schechert family who owns Far West Water/Sewer and the new development. Right now the United States is in a great economic downturn and a lot of us do not have the funds to offset this, they just built a new treatment facility in the Foothills, and I'm hearing the state made them meet higher standards, was there not an inspector over seeing this job, right now when they pump the sewer tank about 1/2 mile from our home you can't stand the smell. Make the developer, new businesses or new homeowner take responsibilities for these upgrades.

Look forward to seeing you all at the hearing, hopefully there will be enough room.

Sincerely,

Connie McKemy


End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

I e-mailed Lupe Ortiz @ ACC Phoenix Office to please have placed in the appropriate stack and have this docketed towards docket no. WS-03478A-08-0454 under Far West Water & Sewer. File closed.

End of Comments

Date Completed: 2/10/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 75662

Feb 12 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission

Re: Docket # WS-03478A-08-0454
Far West Water & Sewer Co.
Yuma Az.

In protest for the requested sewer rate increase.

As full time residents of the Foothills in Yuma, living on a limited income, the rate increase asked for will really be a budget hardship.

Cordially,

Verlin L. Broich

April L. Broich

13813 E 53rd Dr

Yuma Az 85367

Mr. Verlin L. Broich
13813 E 53rd Dr
Yuma, AZ 85367

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the Consumers Sen *W. DeHate* complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

Step 2

*12519 S. Driftwood Dr.
Yuma, Az. 85367*

YOUR NAME <i>William R. DeHate</i>	DATE <i>2-11-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>12519 S. Driftwood Drive</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>989-600-6941</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>	DOCKET NUMBER
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FAR WEST SEWER</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input checked="" type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>bbbd@ejourney.com</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

As new residents of Yuma, we are appalled at a 200% increase in sewer rates. An increase would be understood by today's conditions, but under 25% would fit in with the rest of the increases we've had to accept in our daily lives. Remember how many retired citizens that Yuma has!!!

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

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Mr. Donald Newquist
11653 S Dorothy Dr
Yuma, AZ 85367

Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Donald Newquist</i>	DATE <i>2-12-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11653 Dorothy Dr.</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-342-2337</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, we the customers of Far West Water and Sewer Co., would like to ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to NOT APPROVE the application submitted by Far west water and Sewer Company. Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454.

A. Far West provides water and sewer services to the Foothills area east of Yuma. There are approximately 8000 residential and commercial customers in this unincorporated area of Yuma County, who would receive a rate increase of over 200% over a period of three years. Once approved this new rate will be the permanent rate and will continue until Far West decides to raise the rates again.

Please see the Next 2 Pages

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>DEBORAH BUTLER</i>	DATE <i>2-9-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>14781 E. 52ND ST. YUMA, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-345-0106</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FAR WEST WATER AND SEWER</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

I FEEL THE RATE INCREASE IS EXCESSIVE AND UNJUST. I AM MORE THAN HAPPY TO PAY AN INCREASE IN OUR RATE IF WE ARE BELOW WHAT OTHER COUNTIES PAY THAT ARE OUR SIZE. HOWEVER I FEEL AN INCREASE OF THIS PROPORTION IS MORE THAN A FAIR SHARE.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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mailmaster@azcc.gov

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>HANS BUTLER</i>	DATE <i>2-9-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>14781 E. 52ND ST YUMA AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-345-0106</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>US-03478A-08-0454</i>	DOCKET NUMBER
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FAR WEST WATER AND SEWER</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

*RATE INCREASE IS TOO HIGH AND
UNREASONABLE.*

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>LORRAINE EDWARDS</i>	DATE <i>3-11-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>12646 E 45TH ST. YUMA 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>CALL#</i> <i>(253) 381-3258</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: FARWEST WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASE	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME FARWEST WATER & SEWER	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>NONE</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

<i>There should be a time limit on this excessive increase. If this pot. tax passes will cause drastic problems for homeowners on limited incomes</i>

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Verna S. Berghoff	DATE 2/10/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 14150 E 49th Ln	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 342-2945
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS-03478A-08-0454	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer Company	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input checked="" type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS Berghoff6@localnet.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

The rate increase proposed by Far West Water and Sewer Company is excessive and far higher then I can afford. I am only using the sewer for 5 or 6 months per year but I am billed monthly for the full year.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

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mailmaster@azcc.gov

Verna S. Berghoff
14150 E. 49th Ln.
Yuma, AZ 85367

Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Ray and Phyllis Beazizo	DATE 2/9/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 10209 S Spring Ave Yuma AZ 85365	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 345-3693
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Rate Application	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS raynphyllis@netscape.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Please DO NOT approve any increase of our sewer rates, to the Far West Water & Sewer Company. With our spiraling down hill economy this rate increase they are asking for is absurd and should be denied.

We weren't even notified about the last increase they imposed. In the spring when we were leaving Yuma we had our power and water turned off on our property. When we returned in the Fall, we had our water turned on, and at that time Far West presented us with a bill for \$120 for the 6 months of sewer charges when we weren't even on the property. The next Fall when we returned they had upped the sewer rate to \$21.75 during the summer. All of these rate changes took place without us receiving prior notice.

We feel that any rate hike is very unfair especially when they want to collect it even though no one is occupying our property and the power and water are both shut off!!!!

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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**Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page**

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We live on a fixed income like many of the winter residents and our income is stretched to the max.

If it is the desire of Far West to have all winter visitors and winter residents to stop coming to Yuma and those who own property to sell and leave these new rate increases may accomplish that for them.

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the Consumers Services Assistance Form for complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

Step 2

YOUR NAME Alice J Lake	DATE 2/10/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 9713 E 33rd Street Yuma, Az 85365	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 305-5104
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS-03478A-08-0454	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer Company	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS alicelake@hotmail.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

This is the most unreasonable and unrealistic rate increase ever heard of. But it stands to reason that the development group owning Far West Water and Sewer would want the property owners(their clients) to pay for their over expansion in Yuma County. We were not even given a choice of who would provide sewer service to the sub-division I am a property owner in. The developers have know for many years that their sewer and ponds were not meeting standards, but they went right on building more and more houses and opening up more lots to sell. I don't intend to pay for their greed. We as property owners will be looking at not even being able to sell our property at a future date with an increase like that hanging over us. Thanks for the opportunity to speak my mind.

Alice J Lake

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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Arizona Corporation Commission

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Dennis and Diane Taylor	DATE 2/10/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 10236 S. Spring Ave Yuma AZ 85365	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 342-3011
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS-03478A-0454	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer Company	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS gr8fuldiane@wmconnect.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Please do not approve or even consider this increase request to Far West Water Company (aka Schechert Sisters).
The residents here in the Foothills area are mostly retired people on limited or fixed incomes, and families many of whom have recently lost their jobs due to the downward spiraling economy. There is no way any of us could pay these exorbitant rates and still be able to put food on our tables, much less pay our taxes every year.

We will be attending the meeting in March.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

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Step 2

YOUR NAME John Emerson	DATE 2/11/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13165 East 46th Street Yuma, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 342-0787
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: WS-03478A-08-0454	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS ruthiesjohn@msn.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Dear Sir or Madam:

Would like to go on record that the increase in sewer rates by Far West Water and Sewer is in my mind totally out of line. As a winter visitor we have had a lot in the foothills for 20 years and had water and sewer hooked up for most of that time. When this service started it cost twenty dollars a month and we could turn it off when we were not here and turn it back on when we returned. Then Far West stopped this service and went to charging year round for service for sewer we were not using. This was in my mind a 100% increase. Now with the increase they are asking for of a 200% this makes a 300% increase for service that for me has not changed. I see no new treatment plants, no upgrades in service, nothing but new homes that will need sewer service at our

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or


You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

expense. I trust you will take this and many other comment under consideration when making your decision.

Sincerely,


John Emerson
928.342.0787

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Robert & JoAnn Shumate</i>	DATE <i>2-12-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>12711 E. 45th St. Vienna, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>253-279-1190</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Sewer Increase</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>#WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>NA</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

we ARE what you CALL SNOWBIRDS. we HAVE BEEN coming TO YUMA FOR ELEVEN years. we put in a WATERING system FOR our PLANTS. when we LEFT FOR 6 or 7 months we could shut off our SEWER TILL we came BACK. They stoped us FROM doing THAT. when we came BACK we HAD to pay SEWER ALL the way BACK TO when we shut it off. They HAD some kind of LAWSUIT they LOST. when They stoped us FROM STOPING SEWER they ALSO RAGED SEWER Fee's. I don't think we should HAVE to pay FOR something we ARE NOT using. we ARE AGAINST ANY SEWER INCREASE. we ARE RETIRED

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

And Live on A Fixed Income THANK YOU

Step 4

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Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME LOIS ARLINE PERKINS	DATE 02/01/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11322 S. AVE. 12E., #196 YUMA 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-342-9216
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: sewer rate increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water + Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

<p>Please see back side of this form!</p>

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;


OR

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

Steve Royce @ 13368 E. 55th DRIVE, YUMA, AZ. 85367

From: <RESEGERMAN@aol.com>
To: <DMBELL2007@yahoo.com>; <BergHH@Netzero.com>; <Billr34@gmail.com>;
 <slw41ster@gmail.com>; <Garyjoann2@msn.com>; <cloharra@msn.com>;
 <j_l_cda@yahoo.com>; <RETLJ02@msn.com>; <jackandzel@yahoo.com>;
 <annejacobson@donobi.net>; <bridonjo41@msn.com>; <vickimattthews@msn.com>;
 <margimillican@msn.com>; <Jepdmp1964@msn.com>; <GammieWA@aol.com>;
 <Royce@donobi.net>; <t_jskid@yahoo.com>; <rgeorgetaylor@msn.com>; <telford_j@msn.com>;
 <telford_t@msn.com>; <PatbonnieT@msn.com>; <jack.dianne@hotmail.com>;
 <Capthook052@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2009 10:46 AM
Subject: FYI...Rate Increase proposed by Far West Water & Sewer Company

This letter is one that I intend to mail to the ACC in reference to Far West's requested rate increase. You may use it as is, or in part, anyway you wish. I just hope that everyone does something and makes their thoughts known. Please substitute your name and address

instead of using mine...  LOL... Please let others, not on my list, know that they may do as they wish.

Arizona Corporation Commission
 Consumer Services Section
 1200 West Washington
 Phoenix, AZ 85007

Ref: Rate Application of Far West Water & Sewer Company
 13157 E. 44th Street
 Yuma, AZ 85367
 Docket No. WS-03478A-08=0454

Background:

The Schechert family (owners of Far West Water and Sewer) are also the owners of H & S Development, several golf courses, and the owners of a major portion of the undeveloped land located within the service area of the Far West Water & Sewer.

The H & S Development Company is and has been developing more land that will require the services of Far West Water & Sewer. This land development is ongoing and therefore compounding the problem of the capacity of the present facilities.

Approximately 3 years ago, without any advance notice, Far West Water & Sewer required that all land owners using their services be required to pay a minimum monthly fee equal to the standard monthly usage fee.

This payment for non-usage doubled the yearly cost for those that spend less than 12 months a year in the Yuma area. These " Snowbirds " are not given the opportunity of having their Far West services discontinued with no monthly charges for the length of time that

those services are not needed.


Notes that I think should be addressed prior to any increases:

1. Is it standard practice for home owners within a service area to be required to supplement the building of additional facilities for the use of new developments or are these new developments required to pay their own way through increased costs of land or impact fees imposed at the time of building?
2. Have moratoriums been placed and/or rescinded without proper allowance for the increased costs needed to upgrade the water and sewer systems?
3. Has Far West Water & Sewer been required to meet the latest existing standards for water and sewer output prior to approving new developments or other projects in their service area?
4. If a rate increase is approved will the homeowners be required to pay the rate fee increase for each of the 12 months of the year, even though they are not using these services all the time or will they be able to have their water and sewer shut off and turned back on with a minimum established fee?

Comments:

1. The company, Far West Water & Sewer, states in part " That the requested increase is do to improvements ordered by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality." Did the company knowingly exceed the capacity of the old system. if so who's fault is it that the system is failing (the company's or the homeowner's) and who should pay for any needed improvements?
2. When are we going to draw the line in the sand for those company's (I.E. Citibank, AIG, Far West Water & Sewer, etc) that through their mismanagement, oversight or greed want existing taxpayer's/homeowner's to pay for their company's errors.
3. A modest, not an excessive rate increase may be required, but not one that exceeds the cost of living index for the Yuma region. Far West Water & Sewer is requesting a 218% increase over 3 years without a time limit for when their wish list will expire. Will this be an increase that will never be removed?

Best Wishes,

STEPHEN ROYCE


2/8/2009

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sewer hike outrageous

I am more than a little concerned about the proposed Foothills sewer rate increase by Far West. Not only will it affect the winter visitors, but the families who live here year-round, many on a much more limited budget than the winter visitors.

Granted, the winter visitors are here only a few months yet pay the same amount of sewer fees as a full-time resident. The point is the proposed increase is outrageous no matter who is footing the bill.

We are writing letters and urging all of our friends and neighbors to do so as well. We plan to attend the public hearing (which is beginning to sound more like an approval stamp than an actual "hearing") March 5 at the Sunrise Elementary School.

But we are also wondering if there is an organized group out there utilizing professional services which we can join and support. We want to go to the hearing armed with facts, not random rants, and get this unreasonable request for an increase squashed.

BARBARA GILKEY

Yuma

YOUR VIEW

Our readers are encouraged to voice their opinions on this page. Send them to: Letters to the Editor, The Sun, P.O. Box 271, Yuma, AZ 85368 or e-mail them to letters@yumasun.com.

All submissions to The Sun should be accompanied by the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone number. Priority will be given to letters of 350 words or less, with longer ones subject to editing for length. Letters to the editor should discuss community issues and should not involve consumer disputes or personal attacks on individuals. The Sun reserves the right to reject or edit any submissions. Credits or bylines may or may not accompany published submissions. By submitting a letter or column, the author assigns to us all rights, title and interest in the submissions, including all copyrights and related moral rights.

Unsigned editorials represent the viewpoint of this newspaper rather than an individual. Columns and letters to the editor represent the viewpoints of the persons writing them and do not necessarily represent the views of The Sun.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME JAMES MATHIESEN	DATE 2-7-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13530 E 49th LN, YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-345-1195
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Sewer Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We are seniors on a fixed income & are less about 1/2 year. We already pay the sewer fee year-round. Raising the fee 300% over a 3 year period is preposterous.

James Joy Mathiesen

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Raymond & Marilyn Accola	DATE 2-12-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13820 E 51 st St Yuma, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-345-0480
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: FAR West Water Sewer Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS raccola@yahoo.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

My wife and I are property owners in the foothills. We object to the 214.8% sewer increase especially in these poor economic times. This type of increase will be difficult to pay, as it is we pay for the 7 or 8 months we do not use the sewer anyway. This will be a poor decision and increase the monetary burden on all residents.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Carol A. Sahlstrom	DATE 01/30/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13539 S,. Ave. 14E, Yuma, Az. 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928 345-0986
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Sewer Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer , Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS aculler@aol.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

It is my feeling that our rates as of know are fair and represent a good return of money for Far West. To increase our rates by 200 + would be a gross misrepresentation of their needs. Perhaps they need to curtail their rapid expansion until they can afford it, the way the rest of the population does. We are, afterall, a senior community on fixed income. Thank you for taking the time to consider our wishes.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME JACK GASKINS	DATE 2-10-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13629 E 50th ST YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 707-490-8115
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: sewer rate increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0457
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water + Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS igaskins@mchsi.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Ludicrous! 200% to THE OWNERS of Far West want the Residents/customers to pay for their own investments in building new developments. We don't mind a "fair" increase but don't expect us to line their pockets! Since we are only here 6mos/yr that would be unfair to those of us who enjoy Yuma to be paying a lot during the Summer months

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Step 2

YOUR NAME EDWIN THIESS	DATE 2-10-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13595 E. 53RD Dr. YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-342-7777
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: sewer rate increase	DOCKET NUMBER 15-03478A-08-0457
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS edpentees@peoplepc.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Reference: Proposed ^{150%} increase in sewer rates by Far West Water & Sewer Co.

This is an absolute & intolerable, unacceptable increase in fees. Even at the current rates, we find it to be the highest we have seen anywhere. Most of us are retired & on a fixed income & find trying to cope with our current financial crisis along with the raise in all goods & services prices.

This increase would probably cause us to sell our property & move to a different area. I think we will be joined by thousands of our neighbors.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Garth Elmore - Susan Belknap	DATE
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11322 S Ave 12 E #61, Yuma, Az. 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928. 342. 6792
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: sewer rate increase	DOCKET NUMBER W/S-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water + Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

IN A DEEP RECESSION, A 200% INCREASE IN THE SEWER CHARGE, WHICH FOR MOST ^{PART} FALLS ON THOSE ELDERLY LIVING ON REDUCED INCOME; IS IN MY OPINION AGGRESSIVE & UNACCEPTABLE!

GARTH ELMORE

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Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
Continuation Page

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

DOCKET NUMBER
WS-03478A-08-0454

FAR WEST RATE INCREASE

2/11/2009

My name is Vernon Albro and this is
Concerning a lot down at 10257 Avenida
Compadre, Yuma AZ. 85365

I am really upset about the rate increase
asked by FAR WEST WATER !!!

I would be paying more for sewer service
than I pay in property taxes - Does
that sound reasonable to you?? I don't
think so. Let Far West handle their
low rents etc. on their own and not on
the backs of their customers I am irate
and so are others.

VERNON ALBRO
12470 E 40th ST.
YUMA AZ 85367
PHONE 928 342-9142

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Dorothy A. Walker	DATE 2/11/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 14127 E. 52nd St.	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 305-1350
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Far West Sewer increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Sewer	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS craftylady4u@hotmail.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

I a retiree and winter visitor who lives in the Foothills in Yuma, AZ during the winter months. Provider for my sewer and water is Far West. I am writing to object to the 200% increase in sewer rates that Far West is proposing. When I became a customer of Far West, by building a home in their service area, I was not told that my sewer rates would go up each time they opened a new area for new homes. Granted I am only here a few months out of the year, but I pay the same amount of sewer fees as a resident who lives here year round. The proposed rate hike is outrageous for a winter visitor or a full time resident who live on limited budgets.

Dorothy A. Walker

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Ms. Dorothy A. Walker
14127 E. 52nd St.
Yuma, AZ 85367

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Richard L Jack</i>	DATE <i>2-11-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>13819 E 51ST ST</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-342-1426</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>SEWER HIK</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FAR WEST</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

would someone clarify what the outrageous proposed increase in sewer taxes (fee) is about, who makes the decisions, what will the money be used for.

I am a winter visitor and spend less than six months here - that makes the increase double for me.

We have no voice in local policies here, but must accept whatever whomever decides to do. It stinks!

Richard L Jack, Foothills

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Richard L Jack
13819 E 51st St
Yuma AZ 85367-8526

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <u>Thomas E Todd</u>	DATE <u>2/10/09</u>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <u>11322 So Ave 12E - Space # 185, Yuma, Az</u>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <u>928/342-3405</u>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <u>Excessive rate increase</u>	DOCKET NUMBER <u>WS-03478A-08-0454</u>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <u>Far West Water and Sewer Company</u>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We think this increase is out of reason. If the Company is so short of Money, they should get out of the sewer business.

We cannot afford this increase. We lost all our retirement in the stock market & like

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Page 2

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CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

every American - times are hard! we are
only two people + ~~flush~~ very little water + certainly
do not see a need for such an increase. we are here 5 months only.

We ask that you Not allow this increase as the
current rate is far above the Norm

Thank you

Thomas + Margerie Todd

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Lloyd D. Tobiassen</i>	DATE <i>2-12-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>13155 E. 52nd Dr, Yuma, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>FARWEST WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASE</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>US-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>FARWEST WATER & SEWER</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>Slotzen@yahoo.com</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

<i>We strongly oppose the request for a 200 percent sewer rate increase over the next 3 years. If this rate increase is approved, it will force many property owners to sell their properties. Perhaps that is the reason for you asking for that ridiculous 200 percent increase</i>

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Irwin O. Kennedy	DATE 2-11-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13730 S. Onammi Ave Yuma, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-305-0152
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: sewer rate increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water + Sewer, Inc.	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input type="radio"/> OTHER <input checked="" type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS Mudpattle@aol.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We are Retired, on a Fixed income. We live here only 6 months a year.

We Can't afford The increase you are Trying To get. We've been paying For Sewer For 5 years, Let The new Construction, pay For any thing new & Additional.

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Mr. Irwin O. Kennedy
13730 S. Onammi Ave.
Yuma, AZ 85367

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Step 2

YOUR NAME <i>Lowell B. Goutremont Jr</i>	DATE <i>12 Feb 2009</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11626 S. Dorothy Dr, Yuma, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-305-0528</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>lb.goutremont@aol.com</i>	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, we the customers of Far West Water and Sewer Co., would like to ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to NOT APPROVE the application submitted by Far west water and Sewer Company. Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0454.

A. Far West provides water and sewer services to the Foothills area east of Yuma. There are approximately 8000 residential and commercial customers in this unincorporated area of Yuma County, who would receive a rate increase of over 200% over a period of three years. Once approved this new rate will be the permanent rate and will continue until Far West decides to raise the rates again.

Please see the Next 2 Pages

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Continuation Page

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

B. Far West Water and Sewer Co and H&S Developers has been fined and is required to pay penalties, for numerous repeated alleged water and air quality violations dating back as far as 1989 and as recently as the 50 counts filed September 9, 2009 that could amount to a judgment of millions of dollars. H & S Developers is also named because it provided the services until forming Far West as a separate company in 1998 and transferring drinking water and wastewater facilities ownership to the new company.

C. In 2006 Farwest Water & Sewer finally came in to compliance with ADEQ. The company has now since expanded its lagoon by 300%. We speculate that this effort was only put forth to compensate for the recent Subdivision that H&HS Development Co. just started.

D. H & S Development Co. recently opened El Rancho Encantado a new subdivision of RV Homes which consists of 219 sites with two RV hookups including Electrical service, sewer dump & water on each site. This is phase one of the project with two more phases to come. We question whether or not this latest request for a rate increase is designed to help pay for the new Wastewater Plant needed to support this new development?

E. Winter Residents currently flock to Yuma because of the weather, and because it is economically feasible to maintain a second home here. Winter residents increase Yuma's population each year by more than 80,000 people with the majority living in the Foothills. This population will be especially affected by this increase because for 6-8 months out of the year they pay for their sewer fees despite being unable to flush their toilets because they have returned to their primary residence.

F. Of the Year round Foothills residents there is still a large majority of Retirees living on a fixed income. Many more are the working class. If the proposed increase passes it would only succeed in further devastating the local economy. There are many folks who live paycheck to paycheck as it is. A fee increase as proposed could potentially force many people to sell or foreclose. With the housing market as it is today, this will only add to the declining economy.

In Conclusion

- We don't feel that Current customers should incur the costs necessary to cover a new Wastewater Plant needed to compensate for future growth. At most this cost should be absorbed by impact fees on the new lots being developed.
- We believe they have not suggested this because it would reduce the parent Company's building profits, in part due to the recession limiting the builder's inability to charge more than the market will bear.
- We further feel that this increase is also being requested as a direct result of negligence on the part of the Water Company, Farwest Water & Sewer. It appears as if they were negligent in poor planning to prevent numerous ADEQ violations.

Continued on the Next Page.

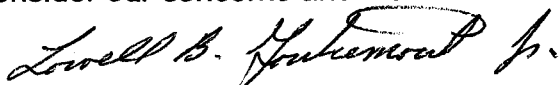
Arizona Corporation Commission
Public Comment Form
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YOUR NAME RON DANNISH / DEB CASELEY	DATE FEB 12/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 12736 E 47th DR.	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-345-0098
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS rdranch@telusplanet.net	

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YOUR NAME DUKE J. DAVIS	DATE 2/13/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11570 S. Dawn Dr Yuma Az 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 9079570185
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input checked="" type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS jdavis@azcc.com	

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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11510 S. Dawn Yuma AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>907 951 0185 cell</i>
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CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>gvarnarain@aol.com</i>	<i>Lorraine Davis</i>

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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11578 S. Glenwood Av. Yuma AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-305-1227</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>[Signature]</i>	

This is our home & we are on fixed income - Please don't raise our cost by the ~~200%~~ - A small increase would be OK - We understand that but not by this increase.

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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11534 S. Dawn Dr.</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>(928) 305-6601</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
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Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

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Step 2

YOUR NAME RAY + JOAN SUEHRING	DATE 2-12-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11642 S. DAWN DR. YUMA AZ	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928 3425763
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS Ray Suehring	 Mr. Raymond W. Suehring 11642 S Dawn Dr Yuma, AZ 85367

Step 3

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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 12737 E 47th DR	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-345-3085
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YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS seefortune@NOTZERO.NET	

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YOUR NAME JAMES J BROWN	DATE 2-12-2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11546 S-Dawn Dr YUMA, AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 619-203-8813
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS BRNHEN@MSH.COM	

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James J. Brown 2-12-09

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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11579 S. DAWN DR YUMA AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
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I sure wish my fixed income would go up by 200 over the next 3 years.

G.S.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME NEWTON & MARGARET HOUSTON	DATE FEB. 12/09.
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13228 E 36 PLACE, YUMA AZ 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-305-2931
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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Continuation Page

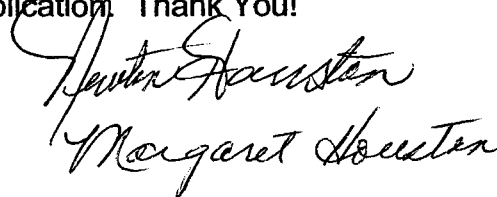
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Margaret Houston

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YOUR NAME <i>Ken + Irene BARKLOW</i>	DATE <i>2-12-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11674 S. Glenwood Ave</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-580-3032</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
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Mr. Kenneth Barklow
11674 S. Glenwood Ave.
Yuma, AZ 85367-6817

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Public Comment Form

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YOUR NAME JERRY BOAG	DATE 2/12/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 11677 S. GLENWOOD AV	YOUR PHONE NUMBER (928) 342-5056
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS BOAGYMAN@f.com	

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YOUR NAME Bonnie R. Piper	DATE Jan 10/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13268 - E. 36th Place - Yuma AZ-85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 305-6508
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
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YOUR NAME <i>BARRY & Virginia Morrison</i>	DATE <i>2/12/09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11535 S Glenwood Ave. Yuma, AZ 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-503-3288</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: <i>Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer</i>	DOCKET NUMBER <i>WS-03478A-08-0454</i>
CASE OR UTILITY NAME <i>Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona</i>	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
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Dated this 12th day of February, 2009

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Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

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Step 2

YOUR NAME Monroe Jacobs	DATE Feb 12 - 2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13252 E 36th Pl.	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 1-928 342 5934
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
CASE OR UTILITY NAME Far West Water and Sewer, Yuma Arizona	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET PRO <input type="radio"/> CON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OTHER <input type="radio"/>
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS jakeone-5@MSN.COM	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

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A. Far West provides water and sewer services to the Foothills area east of Yuma. There are approximately 8000 residential and commercial customers in this unincorporated area of Yuma County, who would receive a rate increase of over 200% over a period of three years. Once approved this new rate will be the permanent rate and will continue until Far West decides to raise the rates again.

Please see the Next 2 Pages

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Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

You may e-mail it as an attachment to:
mailmaster@azcc.gov

MONROE JACOBS
13252 E. 36TH. PL.
YUMA, AZ. 85367

Arizona Corporation Commission

Public Comment Form

Continuation Page

CONTINUE YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

B. Far West Water and Sewer Co and H&S Developers has been fined and is required to pay penalties, for numerous repeated alleged water and air quality violations dating back as far as 1989 and as recently as the 50 counts filed September 9, 2009 that could amount to a judgment of millions of dollars. H & S Developers is also named because it provided the services until forming Far West as a separate company in 1998 and transferring drinking water and wastewater facilities ownership to the new company.

C. In 2006 Farwest Water & Sewer finally came in to compliance with ADEQ. The company has now since expanded its lagoon by 300%. We speculate that this effort was only put forth to compensate for the recent Subdivision that H&HS Development Co. just started.

D. H & S Development Co. recently opened El Rancho Encantado a new subdivision of RV Homes which consists of 219 sites with two RV hookups including Electrical service, sewer dump & water on each site. This is phase one of the project with two more phases to come. We question whether or not this latest request for a rate increase is designed to help pay for the new Wastewater Plant needed to support this new development?

E. Winter Residents currently flock to Yuma because of the weather, and because it is economically feasible to maintain a second home here. Winter residents increase Yuma's population each year by more than 80,000 people with the majority living in the Foothills. This population will be especially affected by this increase because for 6-8 months out of the year they pay for their sewer fees despite being unable to flush their toilets because they have returned to their primary residence.

F. Of the Year round Foothills residents there is still a large majority of Retirees living on a fixed income. Many more are the working class. If the proposed increase passes it would only succeed in further devastating the local economy. There are many folks who live paycheck to paycheck as it is. A fee increase as proposed could potentially force many people to sell or foreclose. With the housing market as it is today, this will only add to the declining economy.

In Conclusion

- We don't feel that Current customers should incur the costs necessary to cover a new Wastewater Plant needed to compensate for future growth. At most this cost should be absorbed by impact fees on the new lots being developed.
- We believe they have not suggested this because it would reduce the parent Company's building profits, in part due to the recession limiting the builder's inability to charge more than the market will bear.
- We further feel that this increase is also being requested as a direct result of negligence on the part of the Water Company, Farwest Water & Sewer. It appears as if they were negligent in poor planning to prevent numerous ADEQ violations.

Continued on the Next Page.

Arizona Corporation Commission
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Continuation Page

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YOUR NAME <i>Bob + Bonnie Smalling</i>	DATE <i>02-12-09</i>
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP <i>11617 S. Glenwood Ave. Yuma, Az 85367</i>	YOUR PHONE NUMBER <i>928-305-1671</i>
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: Proposed Rate increase for Far West Water & Sewer	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-08-0454
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Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Services Section
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Ref: Rate Application of Far West Water & Sewer Company 13157 E. 44th Street
Yuma, AZ 85367
Docket No. WS-03478A-08=0454

Background:

The Schechert family (owners of Far West Water and Sewer) are also the owners of H & S Development, several golf courses, and the owners of a major portion of the undeveloped land located within the service area of the Far West Water & Sewer. The H & S Development Company is and has been developing more land that will require the services of Far West Water & Sewer. This land development is ongoing and therefore compounding the problem of the capacity of the present facilities. Approximately 3 years ago, without any advance notice, Far West Water & Sewer required that all land owners using their services be required to pay a minimum monthly fee equal to the standard monthly usage fee. This payment for non-usage doubled the yearly cost for those that spend less than 12 months a year in the Yuma area. These " Snowbirds " are not given the opportunity of having their Far West services discontinued with no monthly charges for the length of time that those services are not needed.

/

Notes that I think should be addressed prior to any increases:

1. Is it standard practice for home owners within a service area to be required to supplement the building of additional facilities for the use of new developments or are these new developments required to pay their own way through increased costs of land or impact fees imposed at the time of building?
2. Have moratoriums been placed and/or rescinded without proper allowance for the increased costs needed to upgrade the water and sewer systems?
3. Has Far West Water & Sewer been required to meet the latest existing standards for water and sewer output prior to approving new developments or other projects in their service area?
4. If a rate increase is approved will the homeowners be required to pay the rate fee increase for each of the 12 months of the year, even though they are not using these services all the time or will they be able to have their water and sewer shut off and turned back on with a minimum established fee?

Comments:

1. The company, Far West Water & Sewer, states in part " That the requested increase is do to improvements ordered by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality." Did the company knowingly exceed the capacity of the old system. if so who's fault is it that the system is failing (the company's or the homeowner's) and who should pay for any needed improvements?
2. When are we going to draw the line in the sand for those company's (I.E. Citibank, AIG, Far West Water & Sewer, etc) that through their mismanagement, oversight or greed want existing taxpayer's/homeowner's to pay for their company's errors.
3. A modest, not an excessive rate increase may be required, but not one that exceeds the cost of living index for the Yuma region. Far West Water & Sewer is requesting a 218% increase over 3 years without a time limit for when their wish list will expire. Will this be an increase that will never be removed?

Best Wishes,
2/9/2009

Mr. John Ross
13349 E. 55th Dr.
Yuma, AZ 85367

Corothy & John Ross
13349 E 55th Dr
Yuma, AZ 85367

Feb 12, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Services Section
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Daniel I Friesen
13380 E 55th Ln
Yuma AZ 85367-8490

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Daniel L. Friesen Francis L. Friesen
13380 E 55TH LN - Foothills
YUMA

Warren Frutiger
Uzella Harrison
14343 E 49th Street
Yuma, AZ. 85367

February 11, 2009

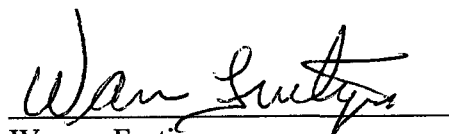
Arizona Corporation Commission Consumer Service Section
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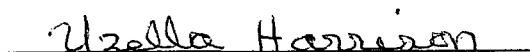
Docket: #WS-03478A-08-0454

To Whom It May Concern:

We live at 14343 E 49th Street, Yuma, AZ. 85367 - Phone number 928-342-5619 residence or 707-478-5739 Cell. We are very concerned about the proposed Docket #WS-03478A-08-0454 with proposed Sewer Rate of 150 percent increase, we are now paying \$21.75 a month and this would increase to \$ 74.32. We live in the Foothill, in Yuma, AZ and are snow birds and are only here about five months a year. We are retired and on a fixed income, this is true of most of the residence in the Foothill. We feel this is a extreme amount of increase for the amount of usage.

Thank you for your consideration,


Warren Frutiger


Uzella Harrison

Arizona Corporation Commission
Consumer Services Section
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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